Superfast train between Bhopal and Mumbai

†1083. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many representations were handed over to the former Minister of Railways for starting a new superfast train between Bhopal and Mumbai;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the then Minister of Railways had accepted the said demand in principle; and

(c) whether the Minister of Railways would start a superfast train between Bhopal and Mumbai, keeping in view the demand and necessity; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Some representations have been received for introduction of a superfast train between Bhopal and Mumbai. These have been examined but introduction of the train was not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Rail Line between Kovvur and Bhadrachalam Road

1084. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a survey for a new line between Kovvur and Bhadrachalam road;

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to be taken up; and

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An updating of a survey for a new line from Kovvur to Bhadrachalam Road has been included in the Budget, 1999-2000, which has since been taken up. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the results of the survey become available.

(c) Token outlay has been provided this year. Rest of the funds, as required, would be provided by reappropriation.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.